215A

ASSASSINATION 10/26 NX

1ST ADD ASSASSINATION NEW YORK 213A X X X EACH OTHER."

IN THE HALL OUTSIDE THE HOSPITAL TRAUMA ROOM WHERE THE BODY WAS BEING PREPARED FOR TRAVEL, BISHOP WRITES, MRS. KENNEDY AND AIDES AND AGENTS CONFERRED. "THE WIDOW, WANTED THE TIME OF DEATH TO COME AFTER THE TIME THE PRIEST HAD GIVEN HER HUSBAND CONDITIONAL ABSOLUTION." DR. MALCOM PERRY WAS "ASKED IF 1 P.M. WOULD BE ALL RIGHT" AND HE AGREED THE DEATH CERTIFICATE WOULD SO STATE, BISHOP SAYS.

WHEN JOHNSON WAS TOLD KENNEDY WAS DEAD, HE WAS MINDFUL OF SECRET SERVICE WARNINGS THAT THERE MIGHT BE A WORLDWIDE CONSIPRACY INVOLVING HIM, ALSO, AND DECIDED THE PRESS WOULD NOT BE TOLD UNTIL HE HAD TRAVELED SWIFTLY TO THE PRESIDENTIAL PLANE AT THE AIRPORT.

THE DEATH FLASHED CLEARED THE UPI WIRES AT 1:35 P.M.

BUT, WRITES BISHOP, WHO SAYS JOHNSON GAVE HIM A PRIVATE INTERVIEW FOR THIS BOOK:-

"HAD ANYONE TOLD MR. JOHNSON THAT, SHOULD THE WOULD RENDER MR. KENNEDY UNCONSCIOOUS, THE FRIGHTFUL DECISION TO LAUNCH A NUCLEAR COUNTER-ATTACK WAS NOW HIST HAD GEN. CLIFTON (KENNEDY'S AIDE) TOLD THE VICE PRESIDENT THAT IT WAS NOW WITHIN HIS POWER--WITH THAT BAG--TO DIAL ANY ONE OF SEVERAL TYPES OF ATTACK? DID HE KNOW? WAS HE AWARE? HAD ANYONE EVER BRIEFED THIS BIG BURLY MAN IN THE MATTER OF AWESOME AND IRREVOCABLE DECISIONS?

"NO. AS THE CLOCK HUNG SILENT, THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA STOOD, FOR A LITTLE TIME, NAKED.

"AS THE RADICALS OF THE REPUBLICAN PARTY HAD KEPT ABRAHAM LICOLN FROM BRIEFING HIS VICE PRESIDENT, ANDREW JOHNSON, ON MATTERS OF WAR AND PEACE, SO TOO THE MEN AROUND KENNEDY HAD KEPT THE DOCTRINES OF POWER FROM LYNDON JOHNSON.

"HE KNEW THERE WAS A BAG. HE KNEW THERE WAS A MAN SEVERAL BOOTHS AWAY (IN THE HOSPITAL, STANDING WITH A BAG. BUT, IF THIS SHOOTING WAS A PARTICLE OF A LARGER THREAT TO THE SECURITY OF THE UNITED STATES, MR JOHNSON HAD NEITHER THE COMBINATION TO THE BAG, NOR THE EXACT KNOWLEDGE OF WHAT TO DO WITH IT."

PH233PED